

# Media Release

## Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

**Scott Mascher – Sheriff**

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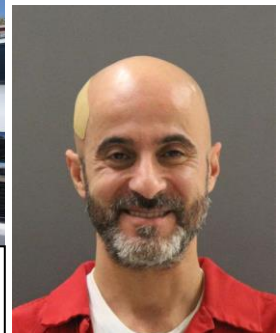


**October 27, 2015 – UPDATE – DEFENDANT EXTRADITED**

### *Child Pornography Defendant is caught attempting to flee the U.S.*

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(Previous media release follows) - On October 20, 2015, YCSO received notification that defendant Wadi waived extradition and was cleared for booking in Yavapai County to answer charges in a pending child pornography possession case. On October 23, 2015, a detective utilizing the YCSO fixed wing airplane with a civilian pilot flew to Albuquerque, New Mexico, and took custody of Wadi from authorities. Wadi was flown back to Yavapai County, landing at the Prescott airport where he was transferred directly to a YCSO patrol vehicle. He was booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center and remains in-custody on a \$250,000 bond pending trial.



Each year, YCSO conducts numerous extraditions with this aircraft and specially selected pilots. The opportunity to control flight logistics directly as opposed to flying a commercial carrier has saved money and made the process far more efficient.

A short video clip of the Wadi's transfer from aircraft to patrol vehicle may be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01qOcn6luUA>

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Originally issued October 1, 2015 -- On September 29th, 2015, a Special Agent with Homeland Security Investigation's (HSI) Flagstaff Office received information that 41-year old Samir Mahmoud Wadi was attempting to flee to the country of Jordan. Samir Wadi is a defendant awaiting trial in a Child Pornography case in Yavapai County Superior Court resulting from a case originating with an investigation by detectives from the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office and special agents from HSI. Wadi had been released from jail last year



on a \$30,000 bond.

The HSI Special Agent obtained a federal arrest warrant for Samir Wadi from the US District Court and then contacted HSI agents in New Mexico. Those agents apprehended Wadi at the Albuquerque airport after he checked in and prepared to begin his planned flights to Amman, Jordan. They noted he was traveling with a large amount of luggage and had left his Mercedes unlocked with the keys inside in the parking facility.

HSI will be working with the US Marshal's Service to return Samir Wadi to Arizona so he can be present at his future trial for Child Pornography.

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office detectives wish to mention that this is just one example of the assistance the Flagstaff Office of Homeland Security Investigations has provided regarding many joint operations to discover those involved in the sexual exploitation of children. The partnership with HSI special agents has been essential in multiple investigations which have led to the capture of persons who sexually exploit children in Yavapai County.

***Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:***

***[www.ycsoaz.gov](http://www.ycsoaz.gov)***